

Brad Mitzelfelt

Supervisor, First District San Bernardino County

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County Turns Over \$1 million, Streetlights to Apple Valley

SAN BERNARDINO – The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today agreed to send more than \$1 million to the Town of Apple Valley as part of an action to turn over responsibility for streetlight operations to the Town in certain unincorporated areas.

"These funds have been accumulating for some time and I have been working to see that the revenues, along with the responsibility for the streetlights, go to the Town of Apple Valley," said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt. "I would like to thank staff from the County Administrative Office, County Special Districts and the Local Agency Formation Commission for their work on this matter."

When Apple Valley incorporated in 1988, it took over the responsibility of most of County Service Area 17, which was formed in 1964 to provide streetlighting services to the community. Four separate areas outside the Town limits were not included when the Town incorporated, leaving 47 streetlights within the remaining areas of CSA 17. Income from property taxes from those areas far exceeded the costs of paying the electrical bill for the lights, which are owned by Southern California Edison.

In recent years, revenue to CSA 17 often exceeded \$200,000 per year while costs have been as little as \$11,000, leaving the fund balance to grow past \$1 million.

The action today is a step toward dissolving CSA 17 and turning over the revenue and responsibility for streetlighting services to the Town. The dissolution of CSA 17 must be approved by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to become final.

Supervisor Mitzelfelt is vice chairman of LAFCO.